

From: [James Luebke](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: LU-24-027 Opposition to Coffin Butte Expansion
Date: Monday, October 20, 2025 9:48:06 AM

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Dear Commissioners:

As a public safety professional with over 30 years working in Oregon and California, I strongly oppose the expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill.

In recent years we have seen how devastating wildfires can be to our communities. Coffin Butte is a major fire hazard. The EPA has already cited Republic Services for flammable methane leaks there and yet the leaks continue. Expanding the landfill would increase the risk. We've already had fires at the landfill in July 2023 and in May and August of 2024. We were lucky then. We might not be so lucky in the future.

Having biked and hiked extensively in the McDonald/Dunn Forest I know that Soap Creek Road is one of the few egresses for residents should a devastating fire occur in the area. An expansion of Coffin Butte could turn that part of the county into a lot of "coffins."

I believe this expansion request, which has been turned down twice by the Planning Commission, would put an undue burden on our public services in violation of BCC 53.215 (2).

I urge you to reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration and for helping to protect our home.

Regards,
Jim Luebke
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